

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Qingquan SU et al.

Serial No. NEW

Filed October 2, 2001

Attn: BOX PCT

Docket No. 2001_1479A

HYDROGEN PRODUCTION METHOD AND
APPARATUS BY GASIFICATION OF
COMBUSTIBLES

[Corresponding to PCT/JP00/02149
Filed April 3, 2001]

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims:

Kindly add new claims 19-21 as follows.

19 (New) A hydrogen production method by gasification of combustibles such as combustible wastes or coal, said method comprising a gasification step for gasifying combustibles and a gas processing step for producing hydrogen by refining the gas produced in said gasification step, said gas processing step comprising

a gas scrubbing step for absorbing and removing dust and a trace amount of acid gases such as hydrogen chloride and hydrogen sulfide in the produced gas obtained in said step, and/or by bringing the produced gas into contact with water or alkali solution, and

ATTACHMENT